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Date: 03 February 2022

Sara Steele  
Democratic Services Officer  
Legal & Civic Department  
Belfast City Council

Via email: [steelesara@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:steelesara@belfastcity.gov.uk)

Dear Ms Steele,

### **STREET TREE PLANTING**

Thank you for your letter of 20 January 2022 to Minister for Communities, Deirdre Hargey about the funding of street tree planting in Belfast. The Minister has asked me to reply to you on her behalf.

As you may be aware, the Department, through the Belfast Regeneration Directorate (BRD), is already working closely with Belfast City Council (BCC) on its Million Trees initiative and has identified 24 acres of agricultural land at Poleglass as a suitable location that might allow the planting of 18,000 trees.

Unfortunately, whilst BRD regularly plants trees as part of its Public Realm Environmental Improvement (PREI) works, it does not have a 'stand-alone' budget available for tree planting. I can inform you that BRD routinely consults BCC in planned PREI works and will continue to do so when considering the planting of additional trees where possible.

Should you wish to discuss further you can contact Mary McCartan, Deputy Director BRD by e-mail [Mary.mccartan@communities-ni.gov.uk](mailto:Mary.mccartan@communities-ni.gov.uk) or on 028 9082 9229.

Yours sincerely,



**Patrick Anderson, Director of Belfast Regeneration**